

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 2-51 will be pending in the captioned application. Claims 2-50 have been indicated as allowed by the Examiner.

Further to a telephone conference with Examiner Lonsberry of today, July 6, 2004, the cancellation of claim 1 will be performed by Examiner's Amendment. Applicants sincerely thank the Examiner for his willingness to prepare an Examiner's Amendment in this regard. Such an amendment does not introduce new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 132.

Also discussed with the Examiner in the telephone conference of July 6, 2004 regards previously presented claim 51. Claim 51 was introduced in the Response and Amendment filed October 1, 2003 because two claims were inadvertently numbered as claim 13. Thus, the subject matter of cancelled claim 13 was added as new claim 51 in the previous Response and Amendment. However, the Examiner did not indicate the status of claim 51 in the present Official Action. Claim 51 depends from allowed claim 2 and thus should also be allowable.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner cancel claim 1 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein and allow pending claims 2-51 to proceed to grant.

**CONCLUSION**

Based upon the above remarks and amendments, the presently claimed subject matter in pending claims 2-51 is believed to be novel and patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned attorney if he has any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

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